

SECRET

1 October 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

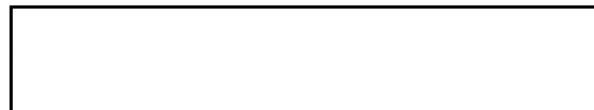
SUBJECT: Conversation with Frank Slatinshek Concerning Agency
Briefing of House Armed Services Committee on the Soviet
Submarine Base in Cuba.

1. In meeting with Frank Slatinshek, Acting Chief Counsel, House Armed Services Committee, on other matters this morning, Mr. Slatinshek raised the question why the Agency has not been keeping the Committee up to date on the Soviet submarine base at Cienfuegos, Cuba. I repeated to Mr. Slatinshek that the Administration has put all agencies on notice that only designated briefing offices will handle requests for briefing of congressional committees and others desiring information about this matter. In response Mr. Slatinshek told me in no uncertain terms that the Chairman and the Committee look to the Agency to keep the Committee up to date on the developments in matters such as Cienfuegos. He told me that the Committee has received a lot of detailed information from many sources on this development, but that they depend on the Agency to keep them straight on the facts. Mr. Slatinshek told me that he would expect a full and detailed briefing on this item the next time I come by to see him.

2. As an afterthought, he mentioned that Ed Braswell, Chief of Staff, Senate Armed Services Committee, had raised the question whether the Agency had kept the House Committee up to date on developments at Cienfuegos. He expressed agreement with Mr. Slatinshek that the Agency had not kept the Senate Subcommittee up to date on this matter.

3. There was nothing personal in Mr. Slatinshek's remarks. He was emphasizing in his own terms as Acting Chief Counsel his sense of standing orders from Chairman Rivers. I thanked him for his candor and told him I would see what can be done.

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